

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. APPM/008403/MASK/MASK-ETCH/ARNOLD S**REMARKS**

This is intended as a full and complete supplemental response to the Final Office Action dated July 6, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 6, 2006. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 2-8, 11, 16, and 20 are pending in the application following entry of Applicants prior amendments. Applicants propose amending the claims, as shown above. Claims 2-8, 11, 16, and 20 are rejected by the Examiner. Claims 2, 11, and 16 have been amended to place the claims in a previously presented form prior to entry of the response to final office action dated July 6, 2006. Thus, the amendments do not raise new issues.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-3, 5, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Tanaka et al.* (US Patent No. 5,688,358) in view of *Satoh et al.* (US PG PUB No. 2002/0162630) and *Ke et al.* (US patent No. 6,284,093). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Tanaka in view of *Satoh* and *Ke* do not teach, show, or suggest a substrate support base, wherein at least a portion of the substrate support base outside of the intermediate substrate support ridge is fabricated from a dielectric material having a lower dielectric constant than a remaining portion of the substrate support base as recited from amended claim 2. Rather, *Ke* teaches the dielectric material resides in a dielectric shield or collar 30 that "rests on and covers the top surface of the cathode which is outside the perimeter of the wafer 20" (col. 5 lines 20-22). This dielectric shield 30 of *Ke* is removable and can be replaced by another dielectric shield (col. 2 lines 1-3), and therefore, the shield 30 is not a fabricated part of the substrate support base.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 2, as well as those claims that depend therefrom, are allowable and respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

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Claims 11, 16, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Tanaka et al.* (US Patent No. 5,688,358) in view of *Sato et al.* (US PGPUB No. 2002/0162630) and *Ke et al.* (US patent No. 6,284,093), and further in view of *Martin* (US patent No. 4,676,193). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Tanaka in view of *Sato* and *Ke*, and further in view of *Martin* do not teach, show, or suggest a substrate (reticle) support base, wherein at least a portion of the substrate (reticle) support base outside of the intermediate substrate (reticle) support ridge is fabricated from a dielectric material having a lower dielectric constant than a remaining portion of the substrate support base as recited from amended claims 11 and 16. As described above, *Ke* teaches the dielectric material resides in a removable dielectric shield or collar 30, which is not a fabricated part of the support base.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claims 11 and 16, as well as those claims that depend therefrom, are allowable and respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

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Conclusion

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show or suggest the invention as claimed.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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